

Att to EGMA 56414, 15 Sept 61

[] = (WICHODIL)

[] = contact w/ GRIESEN, 27 Sept 61

The discussion turned briefly to WICHODIL and then to BANA. I stated that this case was too doubtful to be of value in my estimation and that WICHODIL was an unfortunate choice for an agent either "in positive interests" or as a double agent. GRIESEN then took some issue with me and stated that he had personally listened to a meeting at which BANA had whipped off answers to questions as fast as they were asked, something a d/a could not do. Further, BANA had once reported some information to the East Berlin police against UPHILL instructions, had gotten caught at it and had been subjected to a rather unpleasant session with his UPHILL handler as a result. During this meeting, he was anything but self-assured, and had hedged and hawed and bawled as if he didn't know how to conduct himself. This, in GRIESEN's opinion, is the manner in which too many d/a's under hostile control react. Since this contrasted with his report that the meeting after his disclosures to the police was the only occasion to date at which BANA found himself in the position of being uncertain of what and how much he should say. By the same reasoning, if he were a d/a, such conduct might be expected at every meeting.

6. I then asked if UPHILL had ever caught WICHODIL in a lie. GRIESEN went to great lengths to point out that to date UPHILL had never caught him in a lie. I then asked if UPHILL had been able to check out most of what he had reported. At this point GRIESEN admitted that although they had never caught BANA in a lie, the reason for this was that they had been almost totally unable to check out any of the material he had provided.

7. During the discussion, GRIESEN stated that BANA is currently employed by the East German Art fuer Schiff und Seefahrtwesen, about which he furnished his first and most "exciting" report. He had not previously known where BANA was employed. BANA is being handled by GRIESEN's "Schleimke" (see WHURLET, below).

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